Year	Amounts
2004-05	Rs. l,00,00,000
2005-06	Rs. 1,45,00,000
2006-07	Rs. 1,10,00,000

There is no provision under the Scheme to allocate funds State-wise.

(d) to (f) No priority/concession is provided by the Union Government in regard to the employment of youth trained by the Bharat Scouts and Guides. However, the Indian Railways annually recruit Rashtrapati Awardees of Rovers and Rangers trained by the Bharat Scouts and Guides at Group C and Group D levels. Similarly, State Governments grant incentives at their level which vary from State to State.

Discontinuation of assistance by Centre

†2601. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central assistance for constructing sports infrastructure, discontinued by Central Government, is likely to be resumed; and .

(b) if not, whether States would be provided with separate funds for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Sports Infrastructure Schemes were transferred to the State sector *w.e.f.* l.4.2005. The Ministry took up, the matter with the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance for reviewing the decision in view of the financial constraints of States. The cost-intensive nature of certain categories of infrastructure such as synthetic surfaces etc; and the committed liability towards the already approved projects. The Planning Commission did not agree to the request stating that these schemes have been identified for transfer to States as part of the general exercise to reduce the number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, but agreed to provide funds for the completion of ongoing projects during the Tenth Plan to the extent of the committed liability.

During the current financial year 2007-08, no funds have been provided under the erstwhile Sports Infrastructure Scheme. State Governments will have to fund the ongoing projects out of their own resources for which they can seek additional allocation of funds from the Planning Commission in their respective State Annual Plans.

With a view to addressing the huge gap in the availability of sports infrastructure, especially at the grassroots level, the Ministry have received the in-principle approval of the Planning Commission to launch a nation-wide programme entitled ‘‘Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan’’, which aims to provide all the village and block panchayats with basic sports infrastructure in a phased manner over a period of 10 years.

The draft Comprehensive National Sports Policy also addresses this question under the rubric of ‘‘Sports for All’’, which is one of the objectives of the Revised Twenty-Point Programme issued on Gandhi Jayanti 2006.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.